

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A method of stabilizing an ascorbyl (poly) phosphate against degradation by phosphatases which comprises coating said ascorbyl (poly)phosphate with a lipid.
2. (original) A method as in claim 1 wherein the ascorbyl (poly)phosphate salt is trisodium ascorbyl- 2-monophosphate, or sodium calcium ascorbyl-2-polyphosphate.
3. (currently amended) A method as in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the lipid is a wax or plant oil.
4. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein an adsorbant is additionally present.
5. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ claim 1 the amount of ascorbyl (poly) phosphate is such to provide between about wt. 5 % to about 40 wt. - % ascorbic acid equivalents.
6. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ claim 1 wherein the amount of lipid is about 10 wt. -% to about 60 wt. -%, based on the total weight of the composition.
7. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any one of claims 1-6~~ claim 1 wherein an adsorbant is present in an amount of about 0.5 wt. -% to about 5 wt. -%, based on the total weight of the composition.
8. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1 wherein a granulate having an average mean particle size of about 0.1 to about 1.0 mm is prepared.

9. (original) Granulate compositions comprising trisodium L-ascorbyl-2-monophosphate or sodium calcium L-ascorbyl-2-polyphosphate or mixtures thereof, and a lipid.

10. (original) Granulate compositions as in claim 9 wherein the lipid is a wax or plant oil.

11. (currently amended) Granulate compositions as in claim 9 ~~or 10~~ wherein the amount of trisodium L-ascorbyl-2-monophosphate or sodium calcium L-ascorbyl-2-polyphosphate in the granulate is such to provide between about 5-% to about 40 wt. -%, ascorbic acid equivalents.

12. (currently amended) Granulate compositions as in ~~any one of claims 9-11~~ claim 9 wherein the amount of lipid is about 10 wt. -% to about 60 wt. -%, based on the total weight of the composition.

13. (currently amended) Granulate compositions as in ~~any one of claims 9-12~~ claim 9 wherein the amount of adsorbant, if present, is about 0.5 wt. -% to about 5 wt. -%, based on the total weight of the composition.

14. (currently amended) Granulate compositions as in ~~any one of claims 9-13~~ claim 9 wherein the granulate has a mean particle size of about 0.1 to about 1.0 mm.

15. (currently amended) Animal feed and feed premixes containing a granulate composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9-14~~ claim 9.

16. (original) Animal feed and feed premixes as in claim 15 for ruminants.